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13  
14 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
15 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
16

17 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
18  
19 Plaintiff,  
20 v.  
21 CINDY OMIDI,  
22 Defendant.  
23

CASE NO. CR 13-00739-SVW

**MOTION TO COMPEL  
DISCOVERY; DECLARATION  
OF MATTHEW DONALD  
UMHOFFER; EXHIBITS**

Date: TBD  
Time: TBD  
Courtroom: 6

The Honorable Stephen V. Wilson

1 TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

2 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT at a time to be determined by the Court,  
3 United States District Court Judge Stephen V. Wilson, defendant Cindy Omidi, by  
4 and through her attorneys of record, will and hereby does move for an order  
5 compelling discovery.

6 This Motion is based on this Notice of Motion and Motion; the attached  
7 Memorandum of Points and Authorities, Declaration of Matthew Donald Umhofer  
8 and exhibits thereto; the records and files herein; and such argument or other  
9 evidence that may be presented at the time of the hearing on this motion.

10 This Motion is made following a conference of counsel pursuant to Local  
11 Rule 7-3, which took place on June 27, 2014.

12 DATED: July 1, 2014

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## **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Defendant Cindy Omidi (“Ms. Omidi”) respectfully asks the Court: (1) to compel production of the sealed search warrant affidavit for her residence, which was executed at the time of her arrest in this case on June 4, 2014; (2) to compel limited production of grand jury transcripts demonstrating whether the government presented to the grand jury sufficient evidence of an essential element of the charged offense – evidence that recently produced e-mails reveal the government was still scrambling to obtain days after the indictment; and (3) to compel the government to perform its obligation of reviewing the evidence in its possession – including all evidence seized in the June 4 searches of Ms. Omidi’s residence and other locations – for Brady material in advance of trial.

Ms. Omidi is charged in a one-count indictment with structuring purchases of postal money orders five to six years ago in an effort to sidestep an obscure \$3,000 reporting requirement. The government does not contend that the money used to purchase the money orders came from an illegal source, nor does it contend that the money orders themselves were used for any illegal purpose. Although the indictment charges a penalty enhancement based on the structuring of over \$100,000 in a 12-month period, the total of all transactions alleged in the indictment is \$86,800, and those transactions are spread out over more than 15 months.

The charged conduct, which (based on discovery recently received from the government) was apparently investigated and abandoned by the Postal Inspection Service in 2008 and 2009, was resurrected in 2012 as part of an apparent effort to gain leverage against Ms. Omidi and her sons in connection with an FDA investigation that was then (and remains) ongoing. After scrambling to indict the case in October 2013 before more of the alleged conduct became time-barred by the statute of limitations, the government placed the indictment under seal for



1 seven months while it tried to gather essential evidence of the charged transactions  
2 – specifically, evidence that the money orders had been purchased with cash, as  
3 required to make the reporting requirement applicable – that it had unsuccessfully  
4 sought on the eve of indictment. When it unsealed the indictment, the government  
5 arrested the 65-year-old Ms. Omidi at gunpoint and conducted searches of her  
6 house and several related businesses in connection with the FDA investigation,  
7 seizing a massive amount of paper and electronic data that the government has  
8 readily admitted it is incapable of reviewing for Brady material prior to trial. The  
9 government has further refused to disclose the search warrant affidavit for Ms.  
10 Omidi’s home, despite the substantial overlap between the two investigations and  
11 the government’s refusal to commit to not using any of the seized evidence (or  
12 evidence derived therefrom) at the trial in this case.

13 By this motion, Ms. Omidi seeks to compel the government to comply with  
14 its discovery obligations so that she may receive the fair trial guaranteed to her by  
15 the United States Constitution.

## 16 **II. STATEMENT OF FACTS**

### 17 **A. The Charges in the Indictment**

18 The single-count indictment in this case charges Ms. Omidi with structuring  
19 purchases of postal money orders in violation of 31 U.S.C. § 5324, and seeks an  
20 enhanced statutory maximum based on such conduct’s purportedly forming “part  
21 of a pattern of any illegal activity involving more than \$100,000 in a 12-month  
22 period.” 31 U.S.C. § 5324(d)(2); *see also* 31 U.S.C 5322(b). The indictment,  
23 however, identifies transactions totaling only \$86,800, and those transactions are  
24 spread out over more than 15 months; moreover, all but a handful of the events  
25 alleged in the indictment took place more than five years ago (between August and  
26 December 2008), with the last alleged transaction occurring in November 2009.

27 The government has conceded that it will not be suggesting at trial that the  
28

1 source of the funds used to purchase the postal money orders was illegal or illicit;  
 2 rather, in a neat bit of bootstrapping, the government maintains that the “pattern of  
 3 illegal activity” forming the basis for the enhancement is the alleged structuring  
 4 itself. The government has further agreed that it will not be claiming that the  
 5 money orders were used for an illegal purpose; most of them were deposited into  
 6 the bank account of Pacific West Dermatology, a business with which Ms. Omid  
 7 is associated. Some of those deposits aggregated the money orders into totals  
 8 exceeding \$10,000, which not only explains why the government did not charge  
 9 the far more common structuring statute involving bank Currency Transaction  
 10 Reports, but also significantly negates any intent on Ms. Omid’s part to evade  
 11 reporting requirements.

12 **B. The Government Resurrects a Stale and Previously Abandoned**  
 13 **Structuring Investigation in Order to Gain Leverage on Ms.**  
 14 **Omid and Her Sons in a Larger Ongoing Investigation**

15 The explanation for why the government has now chosen to indict Ms.  
 16 Omid on an obscure postal money order structuring charge falling mostly outside  
 17 the statute of limitations lies in the fact that the Food and Drug Administration  
 18 (“FDA”) has been investigating Ms. Omid and her sons since at least 2012 for  
 19 conspiracy health care fraud, tax violations, money laundering, and other offenses.  
 20 Indeed, the government was fully aware of the conduct alleged in the indictment  
 21 when it occurred, but chose to do nothing about it. In a 2012 e-mail exchange  
 22 between law enforcement agents, a United States Postal Inspection Service  
 23 (“USPIS”) Inspector acknowledged to FDA Special Agent Samanta Kelley, “We  
 24 had looked at this activity back in 2008-early 2009 as they were structuring all  
 25 their purchases, but then it abruptly stopped . I spoke to the Inspector that had  
 26 worked on it back in 2008-2009 . . . .” (Ex. A, E-mail Exchange between Samanta  
 27 Kelley and Victoria Martin (“Kelley-Martin E-mail”).) Apparently, the  
 28 investigation the USPIS abandoned in 2009 was resurrected in 2012 when the FDA

1 inquired in connection with its investigation of Ms. Omid and her sons. (Id.)

2 Six months after that inquiry, in November 2012, the USPIS submitted a  
3 report to the United States Attorney's Office suggesting that Ms. Omid be charged  
4 with structuring and money laundering, for the very same activity that the USPIS  
5 had looked into in 2008 and 2009 and apparently found not of interest or not  
6 chargeable. (Ex. B, Letter from Victoria Martin to AUSA David Kirman, dated  
7 Nov. 5, 2012 ("Martin Report").) The government then delayed nearly a year  
8 before filing the Indictment on October 11, 2013.

9 **C. In an Effort to Beat the Statute of Limitations, the Government**  
10 **Hastily Indicts Ms. Omid, Then Seals the Indictment For**  
11 **Pretextual Reasons While it Scrambles to Gather Evidence to**  
12 **Support the Stale Charge**

13 The indictment was not made public when it was filed; it was placed under  
14 seal. The government insisted that the indictment needed to be sealed because Ms.  
15 Omid was separately under investigation for additional alleged conduct, and the  
16 indictment in this case could cause Ms. Omid "or others to alter or destroy  
17 documents, divest assets, influence witnesses, flee the jurisdiction, or otherwise  
18 impair the integrity of the investigation." (Ex. C, Dkt. No. 2, Ex Parte Application  
19 to Seal Indictment, Attach. AUSA David Kirman Decl. ("Sealing App."), at 2-3.)  
20 In its sealing application, the government indicated that it intended to conduct  
21 searches regarding the additional conduct under investigation in November or  
22 December of 2013, and said that it planned to time its arrest of Ms. Omid on the  
23 Indictment to coincide with the timing of those searches. (Ex. C, Sealing App., at  
24 3.)

25 As public records and documents produced by the government reveal, the  
26 government's purported reason for sealing the indictment was a mere pretext. The  
27 government's efforts to target Ms. Omid and her family in the broader  
28 investigation were no secret, but had been made public by the government itself

1 more than a year prior to the filing of this indictment under seal. In June 2012, the  
2 government publicly and improperly disclosed that the Omidis were targets of a  
3 wide-ranging investigation in an affidavit sworn by Food and Drug Administration  
4 agent Samanta Kelley:

5 I am one of the agents assigned to investigate 1-800-  
6 GET-THIN, Top Surgeons, Inc., Michael Omid, Julian  
7 Omid, Beverly Hills Surgery Center/ and numerous  
8 related individuals and entities (collectively/ "1-800-  
9 GET-THIS) that conduct an enterprise that promotes and  
10 conducts Lap-Band surgery. . . . Along with agents from  
11 multiple other federal and state agencies, I am conducting  
an investigation of 1-800-GET THIN for potential  
violations of federal law including conspiracy, health  
care fraud, wire fraud, mail fraud, tax violations, identity  
theft, money laundering, and the Food and Drug  
Cosmetic Act.

12 (Ex. D, Affidavit of Samanta Kelley in Support of Complaint Against Tiffany  
13 Burrows, dated June 8, 2012, at 2-3.) The investigation had also been intensively  
14 covered by the Los Angeles Times and other news outlets. (See, e.g.,  
15 <http://articles.latimes.com/2012/oct/23/business/la-fi-get-thin-feds-20121023>;  
16 <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-get-thin-accreditation-20130822-story.html>;  
17 <http://articles.latimes.com/2013/may/10/business/la-fi-get-thin-omidi-20130511>.) Several  
18 grand jury subpoenas had been served on the businesses under investigation,  
19 including businesses the government believes to be associated with Ms. Omid, and  
20 substantial amounts of documents had been produced in response to those  
21 subpoenas. Thus, there was nothing that the structuring indictment could possibly  
22 disclose about the ongoing investigation because that investigation was already  
23 public and known to Ms. Omid. Indeed, the notion that an indictment on a  
24 structuring charge would cause the 65-year-old Ms. Omid (a cancer survivor and  
25 30-year resident of Los Angeles) or her sons to flee, destroy documents, or do  
26 other things that they had not done after years of intensive and public federal  
27 investigation is so patently unfounded that it suggests other reasons were behind  
28 the sealing.

1       The government has recently produced e-mails that further demonstrate that  
2 the government's sealing application was a pretext designed to conceal the fact that  
3 the government was unprepared to proceed with the structuring indictment but  
4 wanted to indict quickly in an attempt to avoid mounting statute-of-limitations  
5 problems. In October 2013, several of the transactions alleged in the indictment  
6 were falling beyond the statute of limitations; indeed, five of the 23 transaction  
7 dates at issue in the indictment were already more than five years old, and eight  
8 more October 2008 dates would soon lapse beyond the five-year threshold. It was  
9 therefore incumbent on the government to indict quickly. The day before the  
10 indictment was presented and returned, the government issued an "urgent, one time  
11 data request" seeking information concerning the very issue at the heart of the  
12 postal money transactions charged in the indictment – specifically, records  
13 concerning "what type of tender(s) was used to pay for these money order  
14 purchases." (Ex. E, E-mail exchange involving Eugene Seffert ("Seffert E-mail"),  
15 dated Oct. 10-16, 2013.) This means that on the day before the government filed  
16 an indictment charging Ms. Omidia with structuring cash purchases of money  
17 orders, the government was scrambling to obtain essential evidence that cash was  
18 actually used to buy those money orders. See 31 C.F.R. § 103.29 (requiring  
19 financial institutions to maintain records of money orders purchased with "\$3,000  
20 or more **in currency**" (emphasis added)); Indictment ¶ 3 ("The [Bank Secrecy Act]  
21 required the USPS and other financial institutions to obtain information about any  
22 customer who purchased \$3,000 or more in money orders **using cash.**" (emphasis  
23 added)).

24       The flurry of e-mails on the eve of indictment made it clear to the  
25 government that it could not get the requested information in time. (Ex. E, Seffert  
26 E-mail ("The money orders you have requested are from August 2010 and earlier.  
27 This data is now archived. It can be retrieved from Archives but there would be a  
28 cost associated with it and with providing the data. . . . I cannot say how long it

1 would take as we need Eagan to provide the data.”.) Nevertheless, the  
2 government went forward with the presentation and filing of the indictment the  
3 next day, on October 11, 2013. Nearly a week later, on October 16, 2013, the  
4 government was still pressing its “urgent” request for additional information  
5 regarding the form of tender used for the transactions alleged in the indictment –  
6 critical information going to an essential element of the already-returned  
7 indictment against Ms. Omid.

8 The government’s delays in obtaining this additional information coincided  
9 with delays in the events that would unseal the indictment. Searches originally  
10 slated for November or December 2013 (according to the government’s initial  
11 sealing application) were delayed until June 2014 in an apparent attempt to allow  
12 the government to obtain the information regarding the postal money order  
13 transactions at issue in the indictment that it had frantically sought on the day  
14 before the indictment was returned. By keeping the indictment under seal and  
15 delaying its arrest of Ms. Omid, the government was able to obtain critical  
16 evidence that it did not have when it indicted Ms. Omid in October 2013, and  
17 would not have had in time for a speedy trial in December 2013 or January 2014.

18 **D. The Government’s Arrest of Ms. Omid and Searches of Her**  
19 **Home and Related Businesses**

20 In the early morning hours of June 4, 2014, nearly eight months after the  
21 government had indicted Ms. Omid on this stale, largely time-barred, and  
22 relatively insignificant structuring case, agents stormed Ms. Omid’s home, roused  
23 her from her bed, and arrested her at gunpoint while other agents executed search  
24 warrants at her home and at locations affiliated with businesses in which she and  
25 her sons were involved. (Ex. F, Search Warrant for 1235 Sierra Alta Way, West  
26 Hollywood, Ca., No. 04-1033M; Ex. G, Search Warrant for 9001 Wilshire Blvd.,  
27 Beverly Hills, Ca., No. 04-1035M; Ex. H, Search Warrant for One Wilshire Blvd.,  
28 Los Angeles, Ca., No. 04-1030M.) During those searches, the government seized



1 **100 terabytes** of electronic data and **1,700 boxes** of hard copy documents. (Ex. I,  
 2 Letter from Assistant United States Attorney Evan Davis, dated June 19, 2014  
 3 (“Davis Letter”), at 1, 2.)

4 The government took Ms. Omidi in handcuffs and hauled her to the Roybal  
 5 Federal Building, where they sought detention of a 65-year old United States  
 6 citizen and cancer survivor who has resided in the Los Angeles area for 30 years.  
 7 (Notice of Request for Detention, Dkt. No. 7.) The government’s request for  
 8 detention was denied, and Ms. Omidi was released on bond. (Minutes of  
 9 Detention Hearing, Dkt. No. 29.)

#### 10 **E. The Overlap Between the Indictment and the Search Warrant** 11 **For Ms. Omidi’s Residence**

12 In an attempt to narrow its discovery obligations in this case, the government  
 13 has maintained that the search warrant executed at Ms. Omidi’s arrest concurrently  
 14 with her arrest on June 4, and all evidence seized pursuant to that and other  
 15 warrants executed on the same date, pertain to a separate investigation of unrelated  
 16 criminal activity. The government’s attempted distinction between the indicted  
 17 case and the search warrant investigation, however, collapses upon closer scrutiny:

- 18 • Same Targets: Ms. Omidi and her sons have been named as targets of  
 19 the investigation of both the crimes alleged in the indictment and the  
 20 crimes at issue in the search warrant. (Ex. B, Martin Report, at 1; Ex.  
 21 F, Sierra Alta Search Warrant, at 1-6.)
- 22 • Same Crimes: Both the search warrant and the indictment involve the  
 23 same alleged criminal activity: money laundering. The search warrant  
 24 specifically names money laundering under 18 U.S.C. § 1956 as a  
 25 target crime, while the investigative report regarding the indictment in  
 26 this case identifies money laundering as a crime to be considered for  
 27 indictment. (Ex. B, Martin Report, at 5; Ex. F, Sierra Alta Search  
 28

1 Warrant, at 3). The search warrant thus sought documents related to  
2 the very crime for which Ms. Omidì was investigated in the probe  
3 leading to the indictment. Moreover, the search warrant identified  
4 other financial crimes such as tax evasion that would logically involve  
5 records relevant to the structuring charges in the indictment.

- 6 • Same Company: The search warrant executed at Ms. Omidì's home  
7 expressly sought documents regarding "Pacific West Dermatology"—  
8 the very company whose bank account is the focus of the indictment  
9 and into which the allegedly structured money orders were deposited.  
10 (Ex. B, Martin Report, at 3; Ex. F, Sierra Alta Search Warrant, Attach.  
11 Entity List, at 5.)
- 12 • Same Date and Time: The government arrested Ms. Omidì on the  
13 charges in the indictment on the same day that the government  
14 executed search warrants at her home and several business locations  
15 that the government believes to be associated with her and her family.  
16 Ms. Omidì's arrest took place at gunpoint while the government  
17 executed the search warrant at her home.
- 18 • Same Agents and Agencies: The lead case agent on the search  
19 warrant investigation – Samanta Kelley of the Food and Drug  
20 Administration ("FDA")—was heavily involved in investigating the  
21 crimes alleged in the indictment. (Ex. D, Complaint re: Tiffany  
22 Burrows, dated June 8, 2012; Ex. A, Kelley-Martin E-mail.)
- 23 • Same Prosecutors: The prosecutors assigned to the indicted case  
24 against Ms. Omidì are the same prosecutors who authorized the search  
25 warrants executed at Ms. Omidì's home and elsewhere.
- 26 • Same Investigation: As noted above, communications disclosed by  
27 the government demonstrate that the structuring indictment was the  
28



1 direct result of the investigation that led to the search warrants, and  
2 further that the stale and long-abandoned structuring charges appear to  
3 have been resurrected for the purpose of gaining leverage against Ms.  
4 Omidi and her sons in the search warrant investigation. (Ex. A,  
5 Kelley-Martin E-mail, at 2.)

6 The government itself linked the investigation that led to the search warrants  
7 with the investigation that led to the indictment when it sought to seal the  
8 indictment based on the claim that not doing so would compromise the search  
9 warrant investigation. (Ex. C, Sealing App., at 2-3.) That assertion indicates that  
10 even the government views the indictment as directly related to the search warrant  
11 investigation; if they were truly unrelated as the government now contends, there  
12 would have been no basis for the government to be concerned that the unsealing of  
13 the structuring indictment would alert Ms. Omidi and others to the existence of the  
14 search warrant investigation or result in the destruction of documents relevant to  
15 that investigation. More recently, the government has thus far declined to stipulate  
16 that it will not seek to use evidence seized in or derived from the searches in its  
17 prosecution of this case.

18 These facts expose as illusory the bright-line distinction that the government  
19 seeks to draw between the investigation that led to the search warrant for Ms.  
20 Omidi's home and the investigation that led to the indictment in this case. The  
21 facts and circumstances demonstrate that the two investigations were inextricably  
22 intertwined as part of the government's broader effort to target Ms. Omidi and her  
23 sons. Thus, the government's attempt to cordon off discovery regarding that  
24 broader effort, as further discussed below, must fail.

### III. ARGUMENT

#### A. Rule 16 and Brady Require the Disclosure of the Search Warrant Affidavit

Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure requires the disclosure of any documents that are “material to preparing the defense.” Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(E)(i). Courts have described “material” information under Rule 16 as information that is “significantly helpful to an understanding of important inculpatory or exculpatory evidence. The materiality requirement typically is not a heavy burden; rather, evidence is material as long as there is a strong indication that the evidence will play an important role in uncovering admissible evidence, aiding witness preparation, corroborating testimony, or assisting impeachment or rebuttal. United States v. Liquid Sugars, Inc., 158 F.R.D. 466, 471 (E.D. Cal. 1994) (internal quotations, citation, and emphasis omitted); see United States v. Poindexter, 727 F. Supp. 1470, 1473 (D.D.C. 1989) (“The language and the spirit of [Rule 16] are designed to provide to a criminal defendant, in the interest of fairness, the widest possible opportunity to inspect and receive [discoverable] materials . . . .”)

Similarly, Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963), requires the disclosure of “information that is likely to result in admissible evidence that would give the jury [or] a court a more complete basis for judging guilt or punishment.” United States v. Sudikoff, 36 F. Supp. 2d 1196, 1201 (C.D. Cal. 1999), quoted with approval in United States v. Price, 566 F.3d 900, 913 n.14 (9th Cir. 2009) (“For the benefit of trial prosecutors who must regularly decide what material to turn over, we note favorably the thoughtful analysis set forth [in Sudikoff].”).

The government has refused to disclose the affidavit in support of the search warrant executed at Ms. Omid’s home. That affidavit, however, is material to preparation of the defense in this case by virtue of the substantial interrelatedness

1 and overlapping nature of the investigations and the charges. In order to justify the  
2 search of Ms. Omid's home for the specified items, the affidavit must necessarily  
3 have demonstrated probable cause that (i) the crimes enumerated in the search  
4 warrant were committed; (ii) Ms. Omid committed them; and (iii) evidence of  
5 those crimes would be found at Ms. Omid's home. See Chism v. Washington,  
6 661 F.3d 380, 389 (9th Cir. 2011). The search warrant seeks a litany of documents  
7 "relating to . . . Cindy Omid" and further identifies several alleged financial  
8 crimes as the focus of the search, including money laundering, which is directly  
9 connected to the crime charged in the Indictment.<sup>1</sup> (Ex. F, Sierra Alta Search  
10 Warrant.) Thus, the affidavit must necessarily have contained evidence that  
11 money-laundering-related crimes like the one charged in the indictment were  
12 committed and that Ms. Omid committed them. That information would  
13 undoubtedly be "significantly helpful to an understanding of important inculpatory  
14 or exculpatory evidence" regarding the crime alleged in the indictment. Liquid  
15 Sugars, 158 F.R.D. at 471.

16 But the search warrant was even more closely tied to this case; the items to  
17 be seized listed "items relating to . . . Pacific West Dermatology," including all  
18 documents, correspondence, financial records (and specifically "[b]ank statements  
19 and records, . . . money orders and other money transfer records, . . . and deposit  
20 records"), and ownership and control records. (Ex. F, Sierra Alta Search Warrant,  
21 at 2 & Attach. Entity List, at 5.) Pacific West Dermatology is the very entity  
22 whose bank account lies at the heart of the indictment. (Ex. B, Martin Report, at 3  
23 ("The bulk of the money orders (180) were deposited into the above referenced  
24

25 <sup>1</sup> Currency structuring is a subspecies of money laundering and was proscribed as a felony by the  
26 Money Laundering Control Act of 1986, codified at 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956 & 1957. Congress's  
27 purpose in making structuring a crime was to "provide Federal law enforcement agencies with  
28 additional tools to investigate money laundering [and to] curb the spread of money laundering,  
by which criminals have successfully disguised the nature and source of funds from their illegal  
enterprises." S. Rep. No. 99-433, pp. 1-2 (1986).

1 East West bank account of Pacific West Dermatology . . . .”).) The affidavit in  
 2 support of the search warrant must necessarily have contained probable cause  
 3 concerning financial transactions involving Ms. Omid and Pacific West  
 4 Dermatology – information inextricably intertwined with the charged offense in  
 5 the indictment that clearly “will play an important role in uncovering admissible  
 6 evidence, aiding witness preparation, corroborating testimony, or assisting  
 7 impeachment or rebuttal.” Liquid Sugars, 158 F.R.D. at 471 (internal quotation  
 8 marks and emphasis omitted).<sup>2</sup>

9 Because the affidavit must have set forth probable cause that Ms. Omid was  
 10 involved in the enumerated crimes and had the specified items at her house, it must  
 11 necessarily contain information currently in the government’s possession  
 12 concerning Ms. Omid, Pacific West Dermatology and other related entities, the  
 13 relationships between Ms. Omid and those entities, and financial transactions  
 14 involving Ms. Omid and those entities. It is those very kinds of transactions that  
 15 are the subject of the indictment. The government cannot legitimately claim that a  
 16 detailed report of evidence in its possession concerning the same defendant, the  
 17 same company, related transactions, similar defenses, arising out of the same  
 18 investigation as the indictment in this case, and supporting a search of the  
 19 defendant’s home at the same time as her arrest on the current charges does not  
 20 meet even the minimal Rule 16 threshold for materiality.

21 Finally, the government has declined at this point to commit to not using any  
 22 evidence from the June 4 searches at Ms. Omid’s upcoming trial, nor has it

23  
 24 <sup>2</sup> Moreover, the list of items to be seized demonstrates that the government believes Ms. Omid is  
 25 involved with companies other than Pacific West Dermatology, and the search warrant  
 26 authorized the government to seek financial records regarding all of those companies. (Ex. G,  
 27 Sierra Alta Search Warrant, at 2 & Attach. Entity List, at 1-7.) In a case that is focused directly  
 28 on Ms. Omid’s state of mind regarding financial transactions and her purported evasion of  
 recordkeeping of those transactions, the search warrant affidavit’s information concerning Ms.  
 Omid’s relationship with those other companies and their financial transactions would be “likely  
 to result in admissible evidence that would give the jury [or] a court a more complete basis for  
 judging guilt or punishment.” Sudikoff, 36 F. Supp. 2d at 1201.

1 committed to not obtaining or using any evidence derived from the seized  
 2 evidence. (Ex. I, Davis Letter, at 2.) In light of the government's position,  
 3 production of the search warrant should be compelled to allow Ms. Omidian an  
 4 opportunity to seek to suppress such direct and derivative evidence.<sup>3</sup>

5 **B. Grand Jury Transcripts Should Be Produced Based on a Showing**  
 6 **of Potential Grand Jury Abuse**

7 1. A Court May Compel the Disclosure of Grand Jury Materials  
 8 Upon the Showing of Particularized Need by a Defendant

9 A federal grand jury serves to independently decide which cases should be  
 10 prosecuted and in the process acts as a buffer to protect citizens against unfair  
 11 charges. See United States v. Navarro-Vargas, 408 F.3d 1184, 1196 (9th Cir.  
 12 2005) (en banc) (“[T]he Supreme Court has steadfastly insisted that the grand jury  
 13 remains as a shield against unfounded prosecutions.”) The Fifth Amendment  
 14 states that “[n]o person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous  
 15 crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury.” U.S. Const. amend.  
 16 V. The purpose of the grand jury requirement “is to limit a person's jeopardy to  
 17 offenses charged by a group of his fellow citizens acting independently of either  
 18 the prosecutor or the judge.” United States v. Basurto, 497 F.2d 781, 785 (9th Cir.  
 19 1974) (citing Stirone v. United States, 361 U.S. 212 (1960)). Moreover, the  
 20 Supreme Court has made clear that indictment must be by an unbiased and  
 21 independent grand jury. United States v. Williams, 504 U.S. 36, 49 (1992);  
 22 Costello v. United States, 350 U.S. 359, 363 (1956). This guarantee is not a  
 23 platitude – it is a critical constitutional protection that deserves the utmost respect  
 24

25 <sup>3</sup> Given the close overlap between this case and the search warrant investigation, as well as the  
 26 circumstances of the government's hasty indictment and the fact that the warrants sought  
 27 evidence of money orders relating to Pacific West Dermatology and other evidence that is  
 28 directly relevant here, there is reason to be concerned that the government used the searches at  
 least in part to gather additional evidence in support of this weak, previously indicted case. Even  
 were the government to now commit to not using such evidence at trial, however, production of  
 the affidavit should still be compelled for the other reasons detailed above.

1 from the prosecution. See United States v. Serubo, 604 F.2d. 807, 816 (3d Cir.  
2 1979). However, “[t]he fact that grand jury proceedings are secret, Ex parte and  
3 largely under the control of the federal prosecutor magnifies this concern” that the  
4 guarantee of independence and a lack of bias will not be given the deference it  
5 requires. Id. (footnote omitted).

6 To be sure, the “long-established policy that maintains the secrecy of the  
7 grand jury proceedings in the federal courts” is also an important facet of our  
8 criminal justice system. United States v. Procter & Gamble Co., 356 U.S. 677, 681  
9 (1958). This policy is based on several concerns related to the grand jury process,  
10 including the concern that if grand jury proceedings were made public, there is the  
11 potential that prospective witnesses would be hesitant to come forward voluntarily  
12 or to testify fully and frankly for fear of potential repercussions from those against  
13 whom they testify. See, e.g., Douglas Oil Co. of Cal. v. Petrol Stops Nw., 441  
14 U.S. 211, 219 (1978). In this regard, encouraging the “free and untrammelled  
15 disclosures by persons who have information with respect to the commission of  
16 crimes” also has been recognized as a reason for secrecy. Procter & Gamble Co.,  
17 356 U.S. at 681 n.6 (internal citation omitted). Pre-indictment flight risk, as well  
18 as the worry that those ultimately exonerated by a grand jury would be subject to  
19 public ridicule if their identities were made public, also mitigates in favor of  
20 secrecy. See Douglas Oil, 441 U.S. at 219.

21 Grand jury secrecy, however, is not absolute. Indeed, the Supreme Court  
22 has made clear that the standard for protecting the secrecy of grand jury  
23 proceedings is a flexible one and that the need for maintaining secrecy is greater in  
24 some cases than in others. See United States v. John Doe, Inc. I, 481 U.S. 102,  
25 112-13 (1987). Moreover, the Court has opined that the interests in maintaining  
26 grand jury secrecy are reduced when the grand jury has ended its activities. See  
27 Douglas Oil, 441 U.S. at 222; see also Dennis v. United States, 384 U.S. 855, 870  
28 (1966) (recognizing that “after the grand jury’s functions are ended, disclosure is



1 wholly proper where the ends of justice require it”) (internal quotations and  
 2 citation omitted); see also United States v. Mahoney, 495 F. Supp. 1270, 1273  
 3 (E.D. Pa. 1980). This makes sense given that the majority of the factors  
 4 underlying grand jury secrecy (as detailed above) disappear once the grand jury  
 5 has finished its work. See Douglas Oil, 441 U.S. at 222 (recognizing that “the  
 6 interests in grand jury secrecy, although reduced, are not eliminated merely  
 7 because the grand jury has ended its activities”); see also United States v. Twersky,  
 8 No. S2 92 Cr. 1082 (SWK), 1994 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 8744, at \*15 (S.D.N.Y. June  
 9 29, 1994) (noting that “[g]enerally, however, once an investigation is over, most of  
 10 the policies which warrant maintaining the secrecy of the grand jury proceeding ...  
 11 are no longer present”); Mahoney, 495 F. Supp. at 1273 (same).

12 Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e)(3)(E)(ii) (“Rule 6(e)”) codifies the  
 13 standard under which a court may order disclosure of matters occurring before a  
 14 grand jury, making clear that this may occur “at the request of a defendant who  
 15 shows that a ground may exist to dismiss the indictment because of a matter that  
 16 occurred before the grand jury.” Fed. R. Crim. P. 6(e)(3)(E)(ii). This may arise,  
 17 for example, in the context of prosecutorial misconduct, where a defendant  
 18 demonstrates that the indictment should be dismissed as a result of misconduct that  
 19 occurred before the grand jury or elsewhere. See United States v. Carona, No.  
 20 SACR 06-0224 AG, 2008 WL 1970205, at \*2 (C.D. Cal. May 2, 2008) (stating  
 21 that “particularized need can arise in the context of unfair or improper  
 22 prosecutorial conduct”) (internal quotations and citation omitted). Often, in order  
 23 to fully evaluate the full extent of the prosecution’s malfeasance in the wake of  
 24 such a motion, courts will review and refer to grand jury proceedings. See, e.g.,  
 25 United States v. Samango, 607 F.2d 877, 878-79 (9th Cir. 1979).

26 The standards a district court should follow in deciding whether to release  
 27 grand jury transcripts are “(1) that the desired material will avoid a possible  
 28 injustice, (2) that the need for disclosure is greater than the need for continued

1 secrecy, and, (3) that only the relevant parts of the transcripts should be disclosed.”  
 2 United States v. Plummer, 941 F.2d 799, 806 (9th Cir. 1991) (citing Douglas Oil  
 3 Co., 441 U.S. at 223. Compelling such disclosure is wholly within the discretion  
 4 of a district court. See Douglas Oil, 441 U.S. at 223 (court has “substantial  
 5 discretion” to decide whether grand jury transcripts should be released); see also  
 6 Plummer, 941 F. 2d at 806 (decision to release grand jury transcripts is reviewed  
 7 for abuse of discretion). The Ninth Circuit has recognized the Supreme Court’s  
 8 “general suggestion in favor of disclosure” of grand jury materials. United States  
 9 v. Walczak, 783 F.2d 852, 857 (9th Cir. 1986) (citing Dennis, 384 U.S. at 870).  
 10 Thus, when a defendant articulates specific facts and evidence that that support  
 11 disclosure, and the policies underlying the need for grand jury secrecy are minimal,  
 12 court-compelled disclosure is warranted. See, e.g., Carona, 2008 WL 1970205, at  
 13 \*5 (reviewing requested grand jury transcripts *in camera* and permitting disclosure  
 14 of material relevant to defendants’ arguments where articulated need outweighed  
 15 policy reasons for grand jury secrecy); United States v. Naegle, 474 F. Supp. 2d  
 16 9, 11-12 (D.D.C. 2007) (compelling disclosure of production and inspection of  
 17 grand jury materials prior to evidentiary hearing to determine whether any  
 18 prosecutorial misconduct took place); accord Douglas Oil, 441 U.S. at 222;  
 19 Dennis, 384 U.S. at 871-72; Plummer, 941 F.2d at 806.

20 2. Ms. Omid Has a Particularized Need for Disclosure of Specific  
 21 Grand Jury Materials

22 Ms. Omid requests that the Court compel disclosure of the following  
 23 discreet and specific materials related to the grand jury proceedings here: (1) the  
 24 transcripts of all statements made by the prosecution to the grand jury during the  
 25 course of the investigation and indictment of the structuring case, including,  
 26 without limitation, (a) the prosecution’s introductory remarks at the beginning of  
 27 the investigation and before or after any witness’ testimony, (b) the entire  
 28



1 transcript of the day or days on which the grand jury was read the indictment  
2 (including the prosecution's introductory remarks and closing statements), and (c)  
3 any instructions given to the grand jury concerning the elements of the charged  
4 offense; and (2) the transcripts of any grand jury testimony by any witness  
5 regarding the purchase of any of the money orders listed in the indictment.

6 As discussed above, the facts and circumstances surrounding the return of  
7 the indictment in this case suggest that the government engaged in a pretextual  
8 effort to keep the indictment under seal while the government labored to fill a  
9 critical gap in the evidentiary record as to an essential element. Those facts and  
10 circumstances include the following:

11 • In order to prevail in this case and be prepared for trial, the  
12 government needed evidence that Ms. Omid structured purchases of postal money  
13 orders using cash.

14 • The day before the government presented the indictment to the grand  
15 jury, the government made an urgent request seeking the evidence it needed to  
16 prove an essential element of its case – specifically, that cash was used to purchase  
17 the postal money orders at issue in the indictment.

18 • In response to its request, the government was informed that the  
19 evidence would not be available for quite some time.

20 • The government nevertheless presented the Indictment on October 11,  
21 2013. At that time, seven of the charged transactions were due to lapse out of  
22 statute within the next three weeks.

23 • In the days after the indictment was returned, the government  
24 continued to seek evidence that cash was used to purchase the money orders at  
25 issue in the indictment. It is unclear when that evidence became available, but it  
26 appears that the government unsealed the indictment only after the evidence  
27 became available.

28 • In view of the public nature of the ongoing healthcare fraud

1 investigation, the government offered misleading reasons for the initial sealing and  
 2 continued sealing of the indictment, and did not disclose the unavailability of the  
 3 evidence as a reason for obtaining or maintaining the seal.

4 The above particularized facts establish a need for disclosure that exceeds  
 5 any need for continued secrecy of the grand jury investigation that resulted in the  
 6 indictment in this case. See Plummer, 941 F.2d at 806. There is certainly reason  
 7 for concern that the government did not have on October 11, 2013 – and therefore  
 8 could not have presented to the grand jury – evidence that the money orders  
 9 charged in the indictment were purchased with cash, an essential element of the  
 10 structuring charge in the indictment. If the government did not present such  
 11 evidence to the grand jury – or worse, presented misleading or unsupported  
 12 evidence – then Ms. Omidì could seek to have the indictment dismissed for grand  
 13 jury abuse. See, e.g., United States v. Cerullo, 2007 WL 2683799 (S.D.Cal. Sept.  
 14 7, 2007); United States v. Di Bernardo, 552 F. Supp. 1315, 1325 (S.D. Fla. 1982),  
 15 rev'd on other grounds, 880 F.2d 1216 (11th Cir. 1989). Ms. Omidì's specific  
 16 requests for testimony on this subject and for the prosecutor's statements to the  
 17 grand jury are adequately tailored to address the particularized need shown above,  
 18 and disclosure should be ordered.

### 19 3. In Camera Review of the Requested Materials

20 If the Court is reluctant to order that the grand jury materials sought herein  
 21 be disclosed, Ms. Omidì requests that the Court review these materials *in camera*  
 22 to determine whether she should be permitted to inspect them. Indeed, when  
 23 considering whether or not disclosure of grand jury materials is appropriate, courts  
 24 routinely inspect the materials *in camera* to determine if relevant material is  
 25 contained therein. See, e.g., Plummer, 941 F.2d at 806; Carona, 2008 WL  
 26 1970205, at \*5; Naegele, 474 F. Supp. 2d at 12; Twersky, 1994 U.S. Dist. LEXIS  
 27 8744, at\*\*15, 16; Di Bernardo, 552 F. Supp. at 1325. Following this review,  
 28

1 courts will disclose specific materials to the requesting defendant where  
 2 appropriate. See, e.g., Plummer, 941 F.2d at 806 (noting that the district court had  
 3 “conducted an in camera review of the grand jury transcripts and decided to  
 4 provide Mr. Plummer with all of the relevant parts”); see also Carona, 2008 WL  
 5 1970205, at \*5 (same); Naegele, 474 F. Supp. 2d at 12 (disclosing full grand jury  
 6 record after *in camera* review).

7 **C. The Government Should Be Compelled to Comply With its**  
 8 **Obligations Under Brady By Reviewing All Evidence in its**  
 9 **Possession For Exculpatory Information in Advance of Trial**

10 The government has seized, through its searches of Ms. Omidi’s home and  
 11 of businesses with which the government contends she is associated, an  
 12 astonishing 100 terabytes of electronic data and 1,700 boxes of paper documents.  
 13 Based on the list of items to be seized in the search warrants, it is inevitable that  
 14 some or much of the seized evidence overlaps with the charges and potential  
 15 defenses in this case. Yet the government has made clear that it has no intention of  
 16 reviewing the evidence in its possession for exculpatory material before Ms.  
 17 Omidi’s July 29 trial date; instead, the government proposes to dump an avalanche  
 18 of documents and data on the defense and demand that the defense perform the  
 19 government’s Brady review. As dictated by Supreme Court and other case law, the  
 20 government cannot evade its constitutional duties in this manner.

21 1. The Government’s *Brady* Obligations

22 Under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment, the government has  
 23 an obligation to disclose evidence favorable to the defendant that is material to  
 24 either guilt or punishment. Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83, 83 S. Ct. 1194 (1963);  
 25 see United States v. Bagley, 473 U.S. 667, 676 (1985); United States v. Agurs, 427  
 26 U.S. 97, 110-11 (1976). The government must produce “any potentially  
 27 exculpatory or otherwise favorable evidence without regard to how the  
 28

1 withholding of such evidence might be viewed with the benefit of hindsight” after  
 2 the trial. United States v. Safavian, 233 F.R.D. 12, 16 (D.D.C. 2005). “The only  
 3 question before (and even during) trial is whether the evidence at issue may be  
 4 ‘favorable to the accused’; if so, it must be disclosed without regard to whether the  
 5 failure to disclose it likely would affect the outcome of the upcoming trial.” Id.  
 6 (citing cases); see also United States v. Sudikoff, 36 F. Supp. 2d 1196, 1199-1200  
 7 (C.D. Cal. 1999) (in pre-trial context, government is “obligated to disclose all  
 8 evidence . . . which might reasonably be considered favorable to the defendant’s  
 9 case,” including “inadmissible evidence that would [lead] to admissible  
 10 evidence”); United States v. Carter, 313 F. Supp. 2d 921, 925 (E.D. Wis. 2004)  
 11 (“in the pre-trial context, the court should require disclosure of favorable evidence  
 12 under Brady and Giglio without attempting to analyze its ‘materiality’ at trial”).<sup>4</sup>

13 According to well established case law, it is the *prosecution* – not the  
 14 defense – that has the affirmative duty to review the records in its possession to  
 15 identify Brady material. See Kyles v. Whitley, 514 U.S. 419, 437 (1995) (“[T]he  
 16 prosecution, which alone can know what is undisclosed, must be assigned the  
 17 consequent responsibility to gauge the likely net effect of all such evidence and  
 18 make disclosure when the point of ‘reasonable probability’ is reached. This in turn  
 19 means that the individual prosecutor has a duty to learn of any favorable evidence  
 20 known to the others acting on the government's behalf in the case . . . .”); Carriger  
 21 v. Stewart, 132 F.3d 463, 479-80 (9th Cir. 1997) (“The prosecution is obligated by  
 22 the requirements of due process to disclose material exculpatory evidence on its  
 23

24 <sup>4</sup> The defense has also requested production of Giglio material from the government. See Giglio  
 25 v. United States, 405 U.S. 150 (1972). Because the defense does not know the identity of the  
 26 government’s witnesses, it cannot assess whether any impeachment information is likely to be  
 27 contained in the documents and records that are in the government’s possession. To the extent  
 28 such information exists, however, the government’s obligation is the same as for Brady material,  
 and this motion seeks to compel such review and production as well. See United States v.  
Bagley, 473 U.S. 667, 676 (1985) (“Impeachment evidence, [] as well as exculpatory evidence,  
 falls within the Brady rule.”).

own motion, without request. . . . [T]he prosecution [also] has a duty to learn of any exculpatory evidence known to others acting on the government's behalf.”); see also United States v. Banks, 374 F. Supp. 321, 330 (D.S.D. 1974) (“It is the prosecutors themselves who must personally direct a search of the files in pursuit of discoverable material.”). Nor may the prosecutors delegate their constitutional duties to case agents. See, e.g., United States v. Alvarez, 86 F.3d 901, 905 (9th Cir. 1996) (“[W]e see little justification and much danger to both the prosecutor’s reputation and the quality of justice her office serves for a prosecutor not to review personally those materials directly related to the investigation and prosecution of the defendants . . .”).<sup>5</sup>

Finally, due process requires that Brady evidence be disclosed to the defense in sufficient time to be used effectively at trial. LaMere v. Risley, 827 F.2d 622, 625 (9th Cir. 1987); see United States v. Fernandez, 231 F.3d 1240, 1248 (9th Cir. 2000).

2. The Government Should Not Be Permitted to Evade its Constitutional *Brady* Obligations By Dumping Voluminous Documents on the Defense

The documents and records seized during the searches on June 4, 2014 are unquestionably within the government’s possession, custody, and control. Moreover, if Brady information is contained in any of those documents and records, the government is obligated to produce such information in advance of

<sup>5</sup> Apart from case law, the Department of Justice’s own guidelines, “fashioned after some embarrassing non-disclosures in other cases, command an *actual review* of the materials acquired during investigation of a criminal case for the purpose of disclosing *Brady/Giglio* materials.” United States v. Salyer, 2010 WL 3036444 at \*3 (E.D. Cal. Aug. 2, 2010) (emphasis in original); see United States Attorney’s Manual, Title 9, Section 165 (“Guidance for Prosecutors Regarding Criminal Discovery”) (Jan. 4, 2010) (stating *inter alia* that “[i]t is the obligation of federal prosecutors, in preparing for trial, to seek all exculpatory and impeachment information from all members of the prosecution team,” that “generally all potentially discoverable material within the custody or control of the prosecution team should be reviewed,” that “[g]enerally, all evidence and information gathered during the investigation should be reviewed, including anything obtained during searches or via subpoenas, etc.,” and that “prosecutors must ensure that the material is reviewed to identify discoverable information”).

1 trial in this case. Yet in communications with the defense, the government has  
2 taken the position that (1) there is no Brady material with respect to the current  
3 indictment in the massive amount of data that was seized on June 4, and (2) its  
4 Brady obligations are satisfied by producing or making available all seized, non-  
5 privileged evidence to the defense (which it is not clear at this point the  
6 government will be able to do in advance of trial).

7 With respect to the first point, apart from the fact that the government cannot  
8 possibly know what the seized documents contain until it has reviewed them (a  
9 process that apparently has not yet even begun), the government's speculation  
10 about what is and is not contained in those documents is almost certainly wrong.  
11 As discussed above, the mountain of documents and electronic data seized during  
12 execution of the government's search warrants – data seized at the time of Ms.  
13 Omidi's arrest on the charges in this case – includes evidence from Ms. Omidi's  
14 home and businesses, evidence relating to Ms. Omidi's finances and to those of the  
15 company whose bank account is the focus of the current indictment, evidence  
16 relating to that bank account itself, and evidence relating to financial crime charges  
17 that are both legally and factually intertwined with those in this case and were  
18 investigated by the same agents, agencies and prosecutors against the same targets.  
19 It is inconceivable, applying the liberal standards governing Brady evidence, that  
20 **nothing** in the vast amount of evidence now in the government's possession  
21 pursuant to searches could reasonably be considered favorable to the defense in a  
22 trial on charges against the same target named in the search warrants for financial  
23 transactions involving the same business named in those warrants. Certainly, such  
24 an unlikely conclusion cannot be reached without a careful and thorough review of  
25 the evidence itself – an obligation that falls squarely, and exclusively, on the  
26 government. See Kyles, 514 U.S. at 437 (prosecution has the duty to learn of  
27 favorable evidence and to make proper disclosure).

28 Indeed, during a meet-and-confer held on June 27, 2014, the government



1 expressly **declined** the defense’s invitation to represent that there is no Brady or  
2 Giglio material contained anywhere in the seized evidence. (Declaration of  
3 Matthew Donald Umhofer, ¶¶ 2-3). Absent the ability to make such a  
4 representation, the government has the clear duty to review the evidence in its  
5 possession for exculpatory information. Yet the government has represented to the  
6 defense only that it will instruct its agents to search for Brady and Giglio  
7 information during the course of their upcoming “months-long review” and that it  
8 will turn over any such information “as soon as practicable.” (Ex. I, Davis Letter,  
9 at 2.) Ms. Omid’s trial is scheduled to commence on July 29.

10 As for the government’s “document dump” approach, courts have recently  
11 addressed the government’s Brady obligations in light of the rise of e-discovery  
12 and the attendant increase in voluminous document cases. Relying on Kyles and  
13 other Supreme Court case law, those courts have held that the government does not  
14 satisfy its constitutional duty by dumping documents on defense counsel and  
15 telling them to review the documents for Brady material. For example, one court  
16 observed that “open-file discovery does not relieve the government of its Brady  
17 obligations. The government cannot meet its Brady obligations by providing [the  
18 defendant] with access to 600,000 documents and then claiming that she should  
19 have been able to find the exculpatory information in the haystack.” United States  
20 v. Hsia, 24 F. Supp. 2d 14, 29 (D.D.C. 1998), rev’d in part on other grounds, 176  
21 F.3d 517 (D.C. Cir. 1999). The court went on to emphasize that, in accordance  
22 with Supreme Court precedents, “it is the *government’s* responsibility in the first  
23 instance to determine whether information in its possession is *Brady* material.” Id.  
24 at 30 (emphasis added).

25 Similarly, in United States v. Salyer, 2010 WL 3036444 (E.D. Cal. Aug. 2,  
26 2010), the court relied on established case law and the Department of Justice’s own  
27 discovery guidance in concluding that the “the *prosecution* has the duty to  
28 *affirmatively* scout those records of the agencies considered the ‘government’ for

1 purposes of the criminal case in order to determine and acquire those materials  
2 which would be considered *Brady* exculpatory and *Giglio* impeaching.” *Id.* at \*3.  
3 The court noted that “nowhere in the [DOJ guidance] does it even suggest that in  
4 lieu of affirmatively looking for *Brady/Giglio* the prosecutor may determine not to  
5 look at all and simply disclose the entire discovery file. The prosecutor’s argument  
6 that his duty to affirmatively search for *Brady/Giglio* information is performed by  
7 not searching is oxymoronic in nature.” *Id.*

8 Although the government argued in *Salyer* that it was an “impossible”  
9 burden to review all the evidence gathered during its investigation for *Brady*  
10 material, the court found that the government’s duty to do so is even more  
11 compelling in a “big documents” case. *Id.* at \*3-5. Indeed, the court found that the  
12 government’s impossibility claim was wholly inconsistent with its argument that  
13 “the defense can ferret out all of the *Brady/Giglio* material itself,” and observed  
14 that the defense’s burden would be even more impossible than the government’s  
15 given the length of the government’s pre-indictment investigation as compared to  
16 the short period between indictment and trial. *Id.* at \*4. The court dismissed the  
17 government’s argument as effectively claiming “that logistics in the ‘big  
18 documents’ case render *Brady/Giglio* a dead letter no matter who has the burden of  
19 ascertaining the information. There is no authority to support this evisceration of  
20 constitutional rights just because the case has voluminous documentation.” *Id.* at  
21 \*5. As the court recognized, the “ultimate issue” in these massive document cases  
22 “is whether there is ‘disclosure’ in the letter *and* spirit of *Brady/Giglio* simply by  
23 turning over a mountain of ‘everything’ . . . and telling defense counsel nothing  
24 about where exculpatory/impeaching information can be found.” *Id.* at \*6  
25 (emphasis in original); compare *United States v. Skilling*, 554 F.3d 529, 577 (5th  
26 Cir. 2009) (finding no *Brady* violation from government’s voluminous open-file  
27 discovery where the government “did much more than drop several hundred  
28 million pages on Skilling’s doorstep,” including producing an electronic, indexed,



1 and searchable database and highlighting particularly relevant documents).

2 The evidence in Hsia consisted of over 600,000 documents. Hsia, 24 F.  
 3 Supp. 2d at 28. The evidence in Salyer consisted of “multiple gigabytes” of  
 4 electronic information, each averaging over 677,000 text file pages and over  
 5 100,000 pages of e-mail files, as well as two storage containers of hard documents.  
 6 Salyer, 2010 WL 3036444 at \*3 & n.3. In this case, by contrast, the government  
 7 has stated that the evidence seized in its searches comprises *1,700 boxes of*  
 8 *documents and 100 terabytes of electronic data.*<sup>6</sup> The utterly mind-bending  
 9 volume of such evidence makes the analysis of Hsia and Salyer apply more than  
 10 ten-thousandfold. If the government’s open-file disclosure of the 600,000  
 11 documents in Hsia constituted an unacceptable invitation “to find the exculpatory  
 12 information in the haystack,” Hsia, 24 F. Supp. 2d at 29, then the government’s  
 13 apparent position here that the *defense* should perform the *government’s* obligation  
 14 of reviewing some **7.5 billion** electronic pages (plus 1,700 boxes) for Brady/Giglio  
 15 material is an invitation to find exculpatory information in a field of over 1,000  
 16 haystacks. Moreover, because of the overwhelming amount of time necessary for  
 17 review – months or even years, according to the government’s own estimates – the  
 18 government’s demand effectively forces Ms. Omidia to choose between exercising  
 19 her right to a speedy trial or her right to a constitutionally fair one.<sup>7</sup>

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 24 <sup>6</sup> Each terabyte of information is 1,000 gigabytes, the unit of measurement at issue in Salyer. A  
 25 terabyte is the equivalent of 7.5 million electronic documents, or 75 million printed pages. See  
 26 <http://us.hudson.com/legal/esi-calculator>.

27 <sup>7</sup> Even were the defense to be given the responsibility of reviewing the seized evidence for Brady  
 28 material, the logistics of simply copying and producing the seized evidence make it impossible  
 as a practical matter for the defense to do so before the upcoming trial. Scanning or  
 photocopying only the 1,700 boxes of paper documents, which are housed at the FDA Field  
 Office in San Clemente, is likely to take months,

1 In light of the above, Ms. Omidy respectfully asks this Court to compel the  
 2 government to comply with its constitutional discovery obligations by reviewing  
 3 the evidence in its possession for Brady material and disclosing all such material  
 4 *prior to* the scheduled trial in this case. The government's complaint that it is  
 5 simply impossible for it to do so because of the volume of evidence – a complaint  
 6 that was raised and rejected in Salyer – should not excuse the government's  
 7 performance of its obligations or shift its burden to the defense, particularly  
 8 because the government's present situation is one entirely of its own making. It is  
 9 the government that chose to seal the simple indictment in this case when it was  
 10 returned in October 2013 and not to unseal it until the government had seized  
 11 billions of pages of potentially relevant and exculpatory documents. It is the  
 12 government that chose to execute search warrants on multiple locations and to  
 13 seize an inordinately immense volume of documents that it would be obligated to  
 14 review and disclose prior to trial.<sup>8</sup> It is the government that further chose to arrest  
 15 Ms. Omidy, unseal the indictment, and start the speedy trial clock running on the  
 16 same day that it executed those searches. Most importantly, it is the government  
 17 that has the constitutional duty to ensure a fair trial by reviewing and disclosing all  
 18 exculpatory information in its possession prior to – a duty with which the  
 19 government could easily have complied had it proceeded with this case when the  
 20 indictment was returned, *before* seizing billions of pages that it would then be  
 21 obligated to review.

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 25 <sup>8</sup> The *Salyer* court noted that “[w]hen asked at [the] hearing why the government would seek so  
 26 much information, the [government's] response, pared to its essence, was ‘because we can.’”  
 27 *Salyer*, 2010 WL 3036444 at \*3. In light of the government's seizure of 100 terabytes of  
 28 electronic information and an additional 1,700 boxes of paper documents in a relatively run-of-  
 the-mill healthcare- and tax-fraud investigation, the “because we can” philosophy appears to  
 control the prosecution here as well.

1 **IV. CONCLUSION**

2 For the foregoing reasons, Ms. Omidy respectfully requests that this Court  
3 compel production of discovery as requested herein.

4  
5 DATED: July 1, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

6 BINGHAM MCCUTCHEN LLP  
7 Nathan J. Hochman  
Daniel A. Saunders

8 SPERTUS, LANDES & UMHOFFER, LLP  
9 Matthew Donald Umhofer

10  
11 By: /S/ Nathan J. Hochman  
12 Nathan J. Hochman  
13 Attorneys for Defendant  
14 Cindy Omidy  
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**DECLARATION OF MATTHEW D. UMHOFFER**

I, Matthew D. Umhofer, declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the Central District of California, and I am counsel for Defendant Ms. Cindy Omid in the above-captioned case. I have personal and firsthand knowledge of the facts set forth herein and, if called as a witness, I could and would testify competently thereto under oath.

2. On June 27, 2014, pursuant to Local Rule 7-3, Daniel Saunders, Luke Kuo, and I—attorneys for Defendant Ms. Omid—engaged in a telephonic meet-and-confer session with attorneys for the government, Assistant United States Attorneys Evan Davis and David Kirman (“the Government”).

3. During the meet-and-confer session, the Government expressly declined to make a representation that there is no *Brady* or *Giglio* material contained in the 100 terabytes of electronic data and 1,700 boxes of documents seized from Ms. Omid and others on June 4, 2014.

4. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of the E-mail exchange between Samanta Kelley and Victoria Martin.

5. Attached hereto as Exhibit B is a true and correct copy of the letter from Victoria Martin to AUSA David Kirman, dated November 5, 2012.

6. Attached hereto as Exhibit C is a true and correct copy of Docket Number 2, Ex Parte Application to Seal Indictment, Attached AUSA David Kirman Declaration.

7. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a true and correct copy of the Affidavit of Samanta Kelley in Support of Complaint Against Tiffany Burrows, dated June 8, 2012.

8. Attached hereto as Exhibit E is a true and correct copy of the E-mail exchange involving Eugene Seffert (“Seffert E-mail”), dated October 10-16, 2013.

1           9.     Attached hereto as Exhibit F is a true and correct copy of the Search  
2 Warrant for 1235 Sierra Alta Way, West Hollywood, conducted on June 4, 2014,  
3 in Case Number 04-1033M.

4           10.    Attached hereto as Exhibit G is a true and correct copy of the Search  
5 Warrant for 9001 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Ca., conducted on June 4, 2014, in  
6 Case Number 04-1035M.

7           11.    Attached hereto as Exhibit H is a true and correct copy of the Search  
8 Warrant for One Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, conducted on June 4, 2014, in Case  
9 Number 04-1030M.

10          12.    Attached hereto as Exhibit I is a true and correct copy of the letter  
11 from Assistant United States Attorney Evan Davis to the defense, dated June 19,  
12 2014.

13          I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California  
14 and the United States that the foregoing facts are true and correct to the best of my  
15 information and belief.

16          Executed this 1st day of July 2014, at Los Angeles, California.

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Matthew Donald Umhofer